

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A self-inking hand stamp ~~(1)~~ comprising a stamp housing ~~(2)~~ in which a stamp character~~(5)~~-carrying stamp unit ~~(6)~~ is arranged with a turning mechanism ~~(7)~~ by means of which the stamp characters are pivotably movable from an inking position in abutment on an ink pad ~~(13)~~ that is exchangeably arranged in said stamp housing, into an imprint position oriented towards a surface ~~(15)~~ to be imprinted, wherein, for actuation of the turning mechanism ~~(7)~~, an actuating bow ~~(3)~~ is provided, which actuating bow is displaceably mounted on the stamp housing ~~(2)~~ so as to overlap at least laterally said stamp housing and is coupled to said turning mechanism via lateral openings provided in said stamp housing, said actuating bow being urged into the position corresponding to the inking position by a spring ~~(16)~~ arranged between the stamp housing ~~(2)~~ and the actuating bow ~~(3)~~, and being manually movable against the force of this spring into the position corresponding to the

imprinting position, wherein a receiving compartment ~~(17)~~ for keeping available at least one further ink pad ~~(18)~~ is provided in the actuating bow ~~(3)~~ and the at least one further ink pad comprises means, which cooperate with associated means on the walls of the housing, or on the side walls of the actuating bow, respectively, to secure the at least one further ink pad in position.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): A self-inking hand stamp according to claim 1, wherein the receiving compartment ~~(17)~~ is located in that region of the actuating bow ~~(3)~~ which, viewed in the direction ~~(4)~~ of movement of the actuating bow ~~(3)~~, faces away from the spring ~~(16)~~.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): A self-inking hand stamp according to claim 2, wherein the receiving compartment ~~(17)~~ has an access opening ~~(17<sup>1</sup>)~~ towards the upper side of the actuating bow ~~(3)~~.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): A self-inking hand stamp according to claim 2, wherein the receiving compartment ~~(17)~~ is formed by a bottom wall ~~(19)~~ provided at the actuating bow ~~(3)~~ and by a removably mounted cap ~~(20)~~ covering this bottom wall ~~(19)~~ at a distance therefrom.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): A self-inking hand stamp according to claim 4, wherein at the actuating bow ~~(3)~~, on either side of the bottom wall ~~(19)~~, side walls ~~(21)~~ adjoining the bottom wall are provided and the cap ~~(20)~~ is arched and insertable between these side walls ~~(21)~~.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): A self-inking hand stamp according to claim 4, wherein the bottom wall ~~(19)~~ of the receiving compartment ~~(17)~~, on its side facing away from the receiving compartment ~~(17)~~, forms a supporting rest for that end ~~(22)~~ of the spring ~~(16)~~ which engages on the actuating bow ~~(3)~~.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): A self-inking hand stamp according to claim 1, wherein the receiving compartment ~~(17)~~ is formed by a wall opening provided in the actuating bow ~~(3)~~ with insertion guides located therebehind, an ink pad ~~(18)~~ being insertable in these insertion guides in drawer-like manner.